

REMARKS

Claims 1-25 are pending in the present application. After entry of the above amendments, claims 1-25 will be still pending in this application. Applicants believe that the present application is in condition for allowance, which prompt and favorable action is respectfully requested.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102(b)

The Examiner rejected Claims 1-25 as being allegedly anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,717,830 issued to Sigler et al. (Sigler). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Per Claims 1-6, 15, 18, and 19, Applicants respectfully submit that Sigler does not disclose the claimed invention. Specifically, Sigler does not disclose “determining whether a net has been inactive for a predetermined time period” or “causing the net to enter the dormant mode.” On the contrary, Sigler only determines whether a speaker is inactive for a predetermined threshold period of time, and if so, the speaker is removed. (Col. 17, lines 54-59). There is no mention of checking a net for inactivity or putting a net into dormant mode. Sigler discloses that the inactive speaker is removed and is vacant, which is different from putting an inactive net into dormant mode. In the claimed invention, no speaker is removed from an inactive net.

Per Claims 7-14, 16, 17, and 20, Applicants respectfully submit that Sigler does not disclose “receiving a floor-control-request” “and “bringing the net out of dormant mode if the request is granted.” The Examiner has not shown where Sigler discloses these limitations.

Per Claims 21-25, Applicants respectfully submit that Sigler does not disclose “causing the communication device to enter the dormant mode.” On the contrary, Sigler discloses that an inactive speaker is removed and is vacant, (Col. 17, lines 54-59), which is different from putting

an inactive communication device into dormant mode. In the claimed invention, no communication device is removed from an inactive net.

Therefore, since Sigler does not disclose at least the above limitations, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to withdraw this rejection.

CONCLUSION

In light of the amendments contained herein, Applicants submit that the application is in condition for allowance, for which early action is requested.

Please charge any fees or overpayments that may be due with this response to Deposit Account No. 17-0026.

Respectfully submitted,

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